

# HONOLULU LIQUOR COMMISSION

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



## **PUBLIC HEARING SET ON LIQUOR COMMISSION RULES**

The Honolulu Liquor Commission will hold a special public hearing on proposed comprehensive revisions of its Rules in late January. Since the last Rules revision in 1998, state lawmakers have made many changes to Chapter 281 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes, which require corresponding changes to our Rules, and the creation of new Rules.

In all, 34 proposed Rules additions, deletions and/or modifications have now been reviewed by the State Small Business Regulatory Review Board and will be presented during the public hearing process prior to submission to the Mayor and City Council for final approval and implementation. At the public hearing, any interested party will have the opportunity to comment on the proposed revisions, either by oral or written testimony.

The public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 25, 2005 at 4 p.m. in the HLC hearings room. Please check the Liquor Commission's web site at [www.honolulu.gov/liq](http://www.honolulu.gov/liq) or call our offices on Oahu at (808) 523-4458 for more information.

## **HOROSCOPE MACHINES DEEMED "ENTERTAINMENT"**

The Honolulu Liquor Commission is concerned about the installation and use of a vending machine on liquor-licensed premises that dispenses a "horoscope card"/"sweepstakes game." The issue concerning this machine is the misuse of the "sweepstakes game" as a form of gambling, which may be illegal. Prior approvals by the HLC are currently being reviewed for failing to comply with conditions imposed and misuse.

The Liquor Commission has determined that this vending machine is considered a form of "entertainment" and, therefore, requires the approval of the Commission prior to installation on any liquor-licensed premises. Licensees who install this machine without prior approval by the Commission will be deemed to be in violation and cited to appear before the Commission with the possibilities of penalties and fines.

Requests for approval for installation of this machine should be submitted for investigative review and

approval by the Commission. Each licensee request will be treated individually on its merits.

## **Team PLUS Update - Congrats To Those Who "Passed" The Test!**

As we've reported in previous newsletters, the HLC launched the undercover sting operation Team PLUS in the summer of 2002 to combat underage drinking. We were surprised our findings revealed 7-out-of-10 on-premise licensed establishments served to minors. A follow-up sting operation in the fall of 2003 showed that on-premise locations on Oahu served 4-out-of-10 minors. The results continue to underscore the importance of targeting underage drinking, particularly in our hotels, restaurants and bars.

Here is the HLC "Honor Roll" - a listing of those on-premise establishments that were tested and did not provide alcohol to the minor decoy. Congratulations!

### **HONOR ROLL**

Angelo Pietro Honolulu, Auntie Pasto's Kapahulu, Bamboo International, Inc., Beijing Chinese Seafood Restaurant, Big City Diner - Kailua, Big Island Steak House (Oahu), Buona Sera Ristorante Italiano, Buzz's Original Steak House - Pearl City, Cafe Anasia, Canoe Hut, Cha Cha Cha - Caribe/Mex Restaurant, Cha Cha Cha Salsaria, Chai's Island Bistro, Champa Thai Restaurant, Cheeseburger In Paradise-Waikiki, Cher's Too, Chiko's Tavern, Chili's Grill & Bar - Kahala Mall, Chili's Grill & Bar - Mililani, China Garden, Chucks Steak House, Dave & Buster's, Denny's Restaurant No. 4014 - Kailua, Don Ho's Island Grill, Dots, Dynasty Restaurant, Fishermans Wharf, Flamingo Kapiolani, Furusato (Sushi Bar), Gyotaku Japanese Restaurant, Hackfeld's Restaurant, Haleiwa Joe's Seafood Grill, Happy Days Chinese Seafood Restaurant, Hard Rock Café, Hawaii Prince Hotel Waikiki, Honolulu Airport Hotel, Indigo, Internet Lounge, J. W. Marriott Ihilani Resort And Spa, Jang Su B.B.Q., John Dominis, Kahala Mandarin Oriental, Hawaii, Kakaako Kitchen, Kapono's Good Music Good Food Good Times, Kelley O'Neil's, Keoni By Keo's, Kevin's Two Boots, Kincaid's Fish, Chop & Steak House, Kissho, Kularb Lao Thai Restaurant, Kyo-Ya, Lewers Street Fish Company, Mabuhay Cafe & Restaurant, Makaha Resort & Golf Club, Mililani Golf Club, Moana-Surfrider Hotel, Monterey Bay

(OVER)

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**FIRST  
QUARTER  
2005**



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#### HONOR ROLL continued

Canners, Nancy's Kitchen, New Chinese Garden, New Violet's Grill, Ocean Seafood And Steak House, Osaka/Chosun Café, Otaru, Panda Cuisine, Pasta Italia, Pho Old Saigon Vietnamese Restaurant, Princess Kaiulani Hotel, Quintero's Cuisine, Ronnie's Ice Cream Parlor & Restaurant, Royal Garden Chinese Restaurant, Roy's Restaurant – Hawaii Kai, Shinsho Tei, Shooters At Eaton Square, Sizzler – Waikiki, Sushi Koh, Tanaka Of Tokyo, The Deep End, The Mariposa, The New Otani Kaimana Beach Hotel, The Other Place, The Pali Inn, The Shack, The Shack Mililani, Tony Roma's - A Place For Ribs – Aiea, Tony Roma's, A Place For Ribs – Waikiki, Tryst, T-Spot Hideaway, Inc., Tumbleland Bar & Grill, W Honolulu Diamond Head, Waikiki Broiler And Longboard Bar, Waikiki Joy, Waikiki Resort Hotel, Wang's Garden Restaurant, Yakiniku Seoul, Yen King Restaurant, Zippy's – Nimitz and Zippy's – Vineyard.

### So what is Team PLUS?

It's a Cancer Research Center of Hawaii (CRCH) project, in collaboration with the Honolulu Liquor Commission that focuses on combating underage drinking through research, education, and enforcement. "PLUS" stands for Preventing Liquor Underage Sales.

Each sting operation begins with a team of investigators (usually one or two Honolulu Liquor Commission investigators, a CRCH staff member, and a youth) visiting randomly selected establishments where the youth attempts to purchase alcohol. Youths 18 to 20 years of age served as decoys and attempted to purchase alcohol at each location. After making a purchase attempt and exiting the

establishment, the youth completes a data collection form. At the sites where alcohol was sold, the liquor investigators then issued a citation to the server and the licensee. If the youth were asked, they were required to reply honestly about their age and present a valid identification if asked.

Look for a new Team PLUS project beginning in 2005.

### OVERSERVICING CUSTOMERS

We want to remind all licensees that the HLC takes the issue of overservicing seriously, and all of our investigators have received updated training regarding recognizing intoxicated individuals. With that knowledge in hand, targeted enforcement of the overservicing laws and rules will happen throughout 2005.

### PERSONNEL NEWS

Honolulu Liquor Commission Chairman **John Spierling** passed away in his sleep this past summer while on business in San Francisco. The commission staff will miss him for his leadership, his humanity and his "kolohe" approach to life.

Spierling was appointed to the Commission in 1997 and served as a general partner of Associates



John P. Spierling, 1929 - 2004

Four, which developed and owned the Kahala Hilton Hotel, The Regent of Fiji and the Mark Hopkins Hotel in San Francisco. The partnership also did various real estate projects. Among other civic duties, Spierling chaired the Hawaii Housing Authority (three terms), The Housing Finance and Development Authority (first Chairman), The Aloha Tower Development Authority, and served as a member of the Public Utilities Commission. He was a Life member of the Navy League, president of the Admiral Thomas Condo Association and a Silver Beaver holder in the Aloha Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Spierling attended prep school (grades 9-12) at Culver Military Academy (Black Horse Troop) and then University at Pennsylvania and Gannon with a B.S. degree in Business. He further served as a United States naval officer on minesweepers.

Commissioner **Dennis Enomoto** was elected Chair of the Honolulu Liquor Commission for the remainder of calendar year 2004 and was re-elected Chair for 2005. Chairman Enomoto is vice president of commercial industrial sales for PY, Inc. Enomoto has been actively working in real estate sales and consulting for the past six years and previously worked with various real estate development and general contracting firms, including overseeing the operations at Dura Constructors Inc. He also serves on the board of the Kalihi YMCA.

Enomoto elected Commissioners **Clyde Eugenio** and **Chu Lan Shubert-Kwock** to serve as Senior Vice-Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively. **Danny Kim** continues as Commissioner

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For more information, contact the Honolulu Liquor Commission at (808) 523-4458, fax: (808) 591-2700, visit our website at [www.honolulu.gov/liq/](http://www.honolulu.gov/liq/), E-mail: [liquor@honolulu.gov](mailto:liquor@honolulu.gov), or stop by our offices at 711 Kapiolani Blvd., Suite 600, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-5249. Hours of operation are from 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (registration and cashier closes at 4:15 p.m.)